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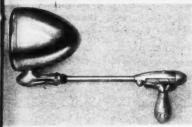
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CAR CRAFT

The "Custom Car" Magazine

Vol. 4 Published Monthly No. 12

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Norm Grabowski's much modified "T" roadster-pick lends quite a radical touch to this month's com Radical, but racy, Norm's Cad-powered bucket is the envy of Southern California rodders — turn to page I and you'll see the reason.

Ektachrome by D'Olh

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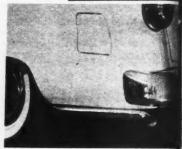
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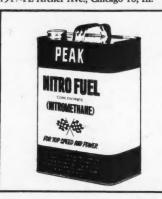


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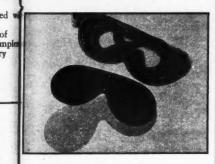
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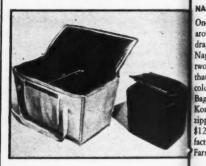
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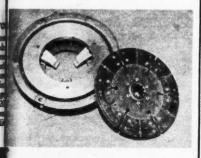
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LETTERS

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PENN-STATE PLYMOUTH

Dear Sir:

Here's a couple of snapshots of my '48 Plymouth coupe. It has a shaved hood and trunk, skirts, and has been lowered 2". The smaller bars have been removed from the grille. Two Plymouth carburetors on an Offea-



hauser manifold, a head milled .065", and a pair of Fenton headers pumping into dual stock mufflers take care of the motive power. Hubcaps are from a '53 Plymouth.

- Marvin Motzler, Meadville, Penna.

We always did think those '46-'48 Plys could be made to look sharp, Marv. — Ed.

LOW COST CUSTOM

Dear Sir:

For those who think customs are only for fails those with a fat billfold, I am enclosing a picture of my recently completed '49 Olds 88, with all modifications accomplished for approximately 55 or 60 dollars.

The hood has been dechromed and peaked; let's
'55 Ford grille; GMC pickup front bumper;



standard wheel covers with '56 Mercury spinners; filled deck; '49 Buick taillights, mounted inverted; interior striping done by myself.

Except for the '55 Cadillac Bahama Blue paint job, all the work was done by my buddies and myself. Customs are gaining popularity here rapidly.

- Basil Craig Charleston, W. Virginia

You just can't beat "do-it-yourself" these days, Bas. - Ed.

OLDS-FIRED SAILBOAT

Dear Sir:

and

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the ffen-

> This is not the conventional Ford of the med 1932 line, but a '32 Plymouth. The body was in exceptional shape when I bought it, and the 4.32 Plymouth rear end provides



pretty good dig - along with the 31/8" bore Oldsmobile V8 engine and '54 Hydramatic

The heads on this engine are milled .100", and it has a 4-barrel carburetor. When the car is parked in front of my home it never for fails to draw a crowd, which is very heartog a warming indeed.

> - Jerry Montgomery Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

ked: let's say your "Ply" is a "gay deceiver".—Ed.

CHICAGOANS LIKE KOHLER

Dear Sir:

Olds

per;

It is the decision of our club (faithful readrs) that you continue the articles by Carl Kohler. We think he is the most. Of course, ou may go down in sales a bit, but you can fford to lose 75¢ or \$1 from the few unatisfied fellows.

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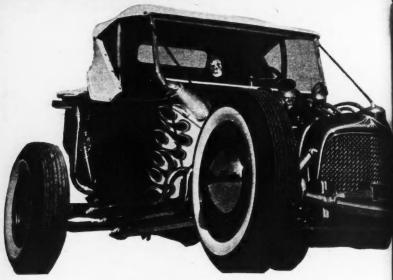


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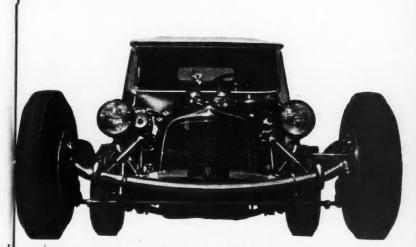
Perspective of this shot makes pick-up bed on Norm's torrid "T" look almost normal chrim length; turn the page to the side-view to get the full effect. Pleated tarp conceals the bed's only cargo; the fuel tank. Taillights are '54 Buick; spring, Model A.

CHARMED CHARIOT

"T" bucket falls under the spell of Norm Grabowski—a rodder of wild imagination

Photos by Bob D'Olivo

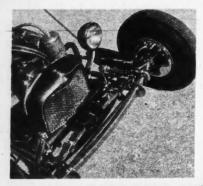
Sunland, California's Norm Grabrowshi bas come up with a unique combination—most people aren's even sure what it is!
The car in question is Norm's Cad-T-this was a '31 "A-V8" roadster when Norm got it five years ago. Dissatisfied with the motorcycles, customs and sports cars he'd owned, Grabrowski used a torch for magic wand, and when the transformation was complete car shown here was the vesult.



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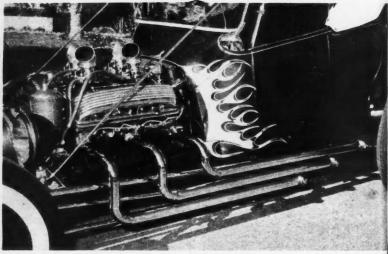


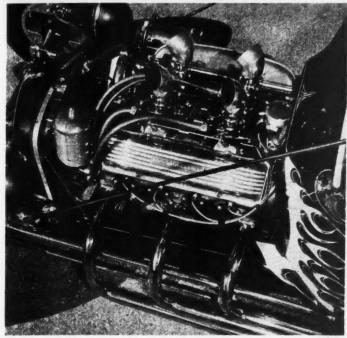
24-year-old Grabrowski is in the poultry business; credits buddies Ted Worobief and Tony Frenn for big assists on the construction and maintenance of the "T".

continued

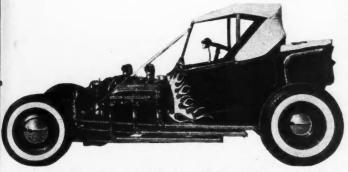
Tornado headlight brackets and Bell Auto steering arm make neat work of two items otherwise difficult for most builders. Norm reports the "T" rides better than you'd think for just a 96" wheelbase,

World's weirdest exhaust system is right in character. Each capped header has its own separate pipe leading underneath the car, into a collector, then into a 30" Huth glass-packed muffler. The steering is from a milk truck, bas 21/4 turns travel





Horne manifold with four Stromberg 97's, Offenhauser valve covers, Jackson Roto-Faze ignition grace the exterior of '52 Cadillac bored out an ½" to 3-15/16" for a total of 354 Cubes. Winfield 7111 cam grind works through collapsed lifters, shortened pushrods and Studebaker rockers for high revs.



First sortie to the drags resulted in time of 103 and a shattered '39 Ford gearbox, LaSalle transmission is slated for early installation. Upholstery by Tony Nancy and striping by Jeffries gave the finishing touches to the "T".

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MODIFYING THE McCULLOCH

Photos by D'Olivo, Cretiz

A HOTTER BLOWER
FOR TOWN OR TARMA





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HOT RODDERS ARE "DOERS." Maybe you've noticed this. If something doesn't wir them, they change it. Take the McCulloch supercharger, for instance. The blower unit itself is fine for the mild supercharge appliestion for which it is designed but the original system between the blower and the intake manifold does have room for improvement: also, for operation over the maximum design pressure, a change is in order in the drive mechanism. In recent months each of these problems has been attacked in earnest by a muple of fellows, each with his own aim in mind. The results have been good. One of these projects is now in an advanced stage of experimentation and the other has been completed to a practical fulfillment.

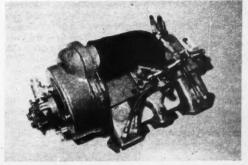
The McCulloch has an automatic variablespeed drive mechanism that controls the speed of its impeller according to the load on the engine and governs its maximum output to five pounds. Under low load conditions the blower impeller takes it easy and doesn't create any pressure boost in the cylinders but when the engine is working hard the impeller speed increases and the blower begins to work. Although the variable speed idea is good for a street engine it isn't necessary for competition machine, and many of the fellows who buy a McCulloch want to use it for competition. The only bad thing about the variable-speed mechanism is that once in awhile some clown will disconnect its control so that the blower will run in high gear all the time. When this is done the drive mechanism's automatic governor effect that limits the blower's output to five pounds is eliminated and the output rises to the maximum it is possible for the blower to create. This is fine for engine performance but it overloads the planetary friction drive arrangement that turns the impeller. In many instances the drive mechanism wears out quickly under this treatment because it is not designed to carry the load the high output pressure places on it and then expensive repairs are in order if the blower is to be used any more. This failure isn't the fault of the blower but of the guy who tampers.

The modification aimed at providing a more durable impeller drive mechanism for continuous high pressure output is the most drastic of the two projects mentioned and it is the idea of Howard Johansen (Howard's Cams) of Los Angeles. Howard replaces the entire McCulloch drive mechanism with a positive gear unit that can't slip regardless of the air pressure created by the impeller. The gear drive is of the planetary type, consisting of a ring gear, a sun gear, and three pinion gears. The ratio of the gearset is 6 to 1. meaning that the impeller rotates at a speed six times faster than the shaft that drives it. This is somewhat higher than the 4.4 to 1 step-up provided by the stock planetary drive. The final step of Howard's conversion toward a completely positive drive is the use of a single-row roller chain, similar to the type used on bicycles, to rotate the blower's driven shaft. The nature of this conversion makes the blower unsuitable for any but competition use because of the noise of the gear drive and the chain. In a competition machine the gear and chain noise is music that is added to the roar of the exhaust and the squeal of the spinning tires and it doesn't matter but in a passenger car the noise would be more than the average fellow would stand.

Howard uses the impeller and impeller housing of a stock McCulloch for his conversions but replaces the standard drive housing with a much smaller one of his own. This

CONTINUED

UPPER LEFT: Howard Johansen giving Don Francisco the inside story of bis blown Chevrolet, LEFT: Cisco looks over California's hottest ski boat with its owner Rudy Ramos, RIGHT: Howard-converted McCulloch with one version of fuel injection described in story.



MODIFYING THE McCULLOCH

continued

Edelbrock 4-carb manifold used in Ramos' boat with base plate, linkage, fuel lines of Morco Engineering enclosure in place, Four studs hold top for total airtightness while in operation,

Aircraft fuel pump is just ahead of battery in Ramos' boat—supplies Howard-converted McCulloch mounted on "C" shaped bracket visible in upper left-band corner of this photograph.



and 31/4-inches. This increased the engine's displacement from 265 to 306 cubic inches. The cylinder heads are stock, with the exception of being ported, and they are used with three head gaskets to drop the compression ratio down to about 83/4 to 1. The exhaust system consists of a pair of Hedman headers and short lengths of straight pipe that run back to a point a couple of feet behind the transmission. The cam, of course, is a Howard, and the igniter is a Scintilla Vertex magneto. A floor-shift '38 Packard transmission has held up fine and the final drive is through a Hudson rear axle assembly with 4.59 gears and locked differential. Rear tires are 8.20 by 15 Firestones. A pair of torque arms clamped to the rear axle housing by the spring U-bolts prevent the springs from wind-

The blower is driven by a 24-tooth sprock-

ing up on acceleration.

not only reduces the overall length of the blower but makes it much lighter as well. The planetary gears in his experimental models now in operation are out of some model of inertia starter for an airplane engine but when the units go into production he will have his own gears made.

At the present time two of the conversions are in use. One of those now running is on Howard's '55 Bel Air Chevy that he runs at the drags. To date the car's best time is 112.77 mph for the quarter-mile, on gasoline. This is pretty fast for a car that runs in the sedan class, as some of you may know.

The Chevy has a few other modifications that help it go as fast as it does and they may be of interest to you — they were to me. Its engine was bored an eighth of an inch and stroked 1/4 of an inch to increase its stock 3/4-inch bore and 3-inch stroke to 3/4-inches

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Special ring and sun gears repeate standard McCulloch drive mechanism in blowers converted for all-out racing by Howard.

et on the crankshaft and a 20-tooth sprocket on the blower. With the 6 to 1 step-up in the blower itself this gives a total ratio of 7.2 to 1 between the crankshaft and the impeller in the blower. At 6000 rpm crankshaft speed the impeller is rotating 43,200 rpm. The variable-speed pulley on a stock McCulloch has a maximum ratio of 1.7 to 1 which, when combined with the 4.4 to 1 step-up in the impeller drive, gives a total ratio of approximately 7.5 to 1 when the drive is in high ratio. However, when the output of the blower reaches a pressure of five pounds the drive ratio drops so this pressure will not be exceeded. In the Howard conversion the ratio of 7.2 to 1 remains constant regardless of engine speed and output pressure as long as the ratio between the crankshaft and the blower's driven shaft remains the same.

The blower outlet is connected to the large, single air inlet of a constant-flow fuel injector of Howard's design. This particular injector is unique, however, in that it also has a Stromberg 48 carburetor to feed the engine at idle and normal driving speeds. The carburetor is mounted on the rear of the injector casting and it is operated by the same throttle linkage that operates the butterfly valve on the injector. The throttle linkage is so-arranged that the carburetor valves open first and then after considerable throttle movement the injector valve opens. When the blower cuts in and creates a positive pressure in the injector passages a valve under the carburetor is forced closed so fuel won't be blown out of the carburetor. Then this cat goes!

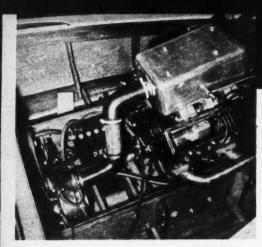
With the blower and injector setup on an

otherwise stock Chevy engine of 265 cubic inches the same car ran 105 in the quartermile. The stock engine developed 250 horsepower on Howard's dynamometer, compared to 300 from the stroker. This gives some idea of the power it takes to make a car go a little faster in the quarter after it once passes the hundred mph mark. As far as the horsepower gain from the blower is concerned, on the stroker engine it boosted the output 65 horsepower with nine pounds boost. This is net horsepower at the flywheel, over and above the power it takes to turn the blower. It takes quite a bit of an engine's power to turn a blower that is putting out a high pressure but this is a necessary evil that can't very well be eliminated without providing another source of power to run the blower.

The second converted blower now in operation is on the '49 Cadillac engine of a ski boat that belongs to Rudy Ramos, of Gardena, Calif. With the blower, the boat will show 80 mph on its speedometer just about any time, and this isn't bad either. This blower is the same as the one on Howard's Chevybut it is driven by a 27-tooth sprocket instead of a 24-tooth because Rudy doesn't turn the Cad as tight as Howard does the Chevy. At the maximum of 4800 engine rpm the impeller is turning 38,880 rpm. With this sprocket combination the manifold pressures are 2 pounds, gauge, at 2000 engine rpm and 9 pounds at 4800. This boost allows the en-

When completely assembled, Howard converted McCulloch appearance differs from stock only by sprocket replacing pulley.





MODIFYING THE McCULLOCH

continued

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Ramos' Cadillac engine with Morco enclosure, Howard-converted McCulloch installed. Note long extension shaft needed to drive blower, fuel pump, water pump. Drive extends beyond blower into "V-drive" gearbox, then back to prop through watertight stuffing box.

gine to develop an additional 100 horsepower, as measured on Howard's dynamometer, over its unblown output. After we got started on this article Rudy changed the sprocket on the blower to a 16-tooth and boosted the impeller speed to 48,600 rpm at 4800 engine rpm. This change improved the boat's acceleration noticeably and boosted the maximum manifold pressure to 12 pounds.

The Caddy has been bored an eighth of an inch to 3½ inches but it still has its stock stroke of 3½ inches. It has Olds pistons, which drop the compression ratio from what it normally would be with the overbore because their compression height is ½ of an inch lower than that of Cad pistons. The cyl-

inder heads are off a '55 engine and the only alterations made to them consisted of cleaning out their ports. The camshaft is a Howard "F5" with mushroom tappets. A Scintilla Vertex fires the mixture in the cylinders.

The carburetion setup now on the boat differs from the one on the Chevy in that it has four Stromberg "48" carburetors instead of an injector. The carburetors are mounted on an Edelbrock manifold. The success of this installation is due in no small part to the second of the two projects mentioned previously. This improvement makes it possible to pressurize the entire carburetors instead of merely forcing air into their air horns. This is done by covering the carburetors with a



Stock McCulloch impeller housing cover is used in Howard-converted blowers. Close inspection reveals gradually increasing cross-section of duct formed by cover and bousing when bolted together. This converts velocity of charge into pressure for boost, which may be as high as 12 pounds.

Howard drive assembly for Mc-Culloch shown installed. Use of aluminum for material in this casting greatly reduces weight of the unit. Positive chain drive to sprocket is required by additional power used by blower to turn higher rpm's.

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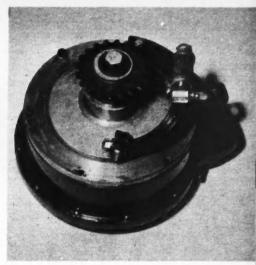
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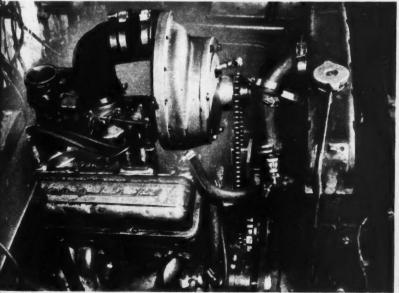
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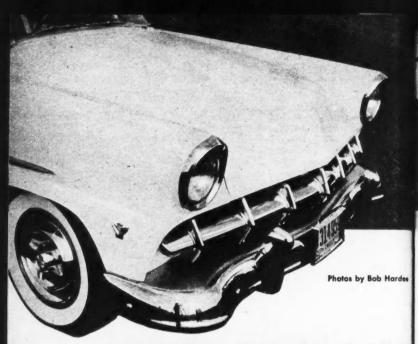
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One-off type installation in Howard's '55 Chev has single "97" for low-speed, zero boost operation. Automatic valve seals off carb when blower and injector cut-in.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 60



FANCY FAIRLANE

'55 models lend themselves to inexpensive customizing









Clever airscoop effect was created just forward of rear wheel openings with special sheet metal fabrication. Scoop's design mates with stock trailing body contour. Note trim protruding from scoop opening.

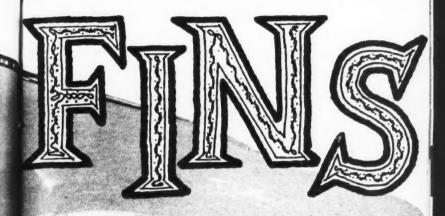


Robbie Martinez of Broadway Custom Shop is credited with torch capers on Jerry Moree's late' 55 Ford club sedan. Novel two-tone side treatment was a natural after once adapting the universal '55 DeSoto side trim. Chrome lip of grille opening was discarded and edge finished off neatly. Cavity now houses reworked '54 Chevy grille assembly. Stock headlight rims were removed and replaced with '56 Oldsmobile frames. Hood chrome was also removed for standard custom appearance. Ford's body has been lowered four inches both fore and aft. Exterior color is combo of Sierra Gold and white. Two Chev grille bars were spliced together to fill Ford's elongated grille cavity. Note ends have been capped and filled, then assembled completely rechromed for one-piece look.



APRIL, 1957





By George Barris

JUST ABOUT EVERY body shop and backyard Farina in the country has climbed on the "fin" bandwagon in an effort to equal (or out-do Detroit?) in that new jet-tailed appearance for their particular customized product. It's not an entirely new styling kick for some of the more prominent body shops have been incorporating fins in a minor degree on many of their so-called way-out creations for some time. But for the backyard customizers — there seems to be no limit as to what constitutes well designed fins in relationship to the overall appearance of the car, as compared to a set of dorsal type protrusions that somehow transform his automobile into a "space station".

The innovation of rear fender fins is a thing of beauty indeed. Many of the one-of-a-kind experimental models and '57 products such as Chryslers, Fords and Cadillacs bear-out this thought. But a close look at any one of these cars will reveal the element that the fins were designed with, a harmonious over-all appearance in mind and not just attached to the rear fenders as futuristic ornaments.

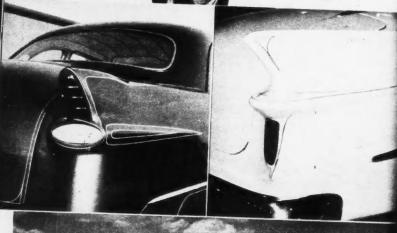
On the following pages you will find several elements pertaining to the newly popular fin theme. A pictorial section portrays some of the more legitimate "rudder" effects that have already been created by customizers. You will also note that the new fiberglass-to-metal material plays an equal part to that of sheet metal fabrication. And a late entry is a pre-cast fiberglass fin destined to become very popular as an accessory item for the Chevrolet and Ford products. Our detigner-illustrator, Bob Cadaret, also gets into the act with a few universal suggestions along the fin line, and the salon is made complete with a how-to-do-it on building a set of fins for your own car. We do not profess to be connoisseurs of the rear fender fin, and so have set forth every example that our files would yield. The choice of design—style—and appearance, is up to you.

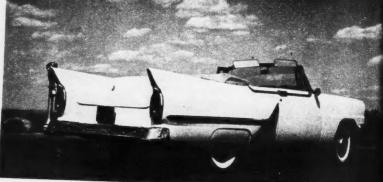
CONTINUED

FINS

PE YOUR OWN STYLIST

continued





SENT

RAFT





TOP LEFT .

Displayed is new fiberglass fin for all '49-'51 Fords manufactured by "Plastic Surgeon". For information write: Box 338, Tustin, California.

CENTER RIGHT .

'55 Plymouth taillights were used to create kickup for this rear fender. The decorative pin striping augments special custom work to finish this job.

LEFT .

Heavy emphasis on sculptured appearance is found at the rear fenders on this model. Size of the fins blend well with over-all styling of the car.

FAR LEFT .

Small novel fins were incorporated on this '49-'51 Ford using lens from a late Buick for kickup, Stock lenses have been converted to backup lights.

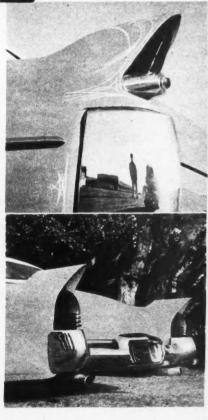
LOWER LEFT .

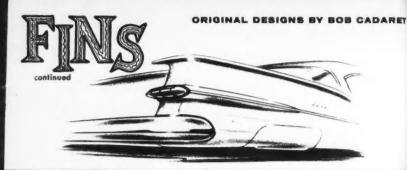
Late Merc takes on undated styling with rakish fins. Fins can either be fabricated from sheet metal or constructed from versatile fiberglass.

LOWER RIGHT .

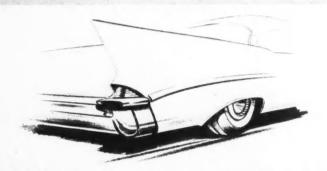
Fiberglass built, these stark designed fins lend a very futuristic flair to the rear of this late model Lincoln. Deep cavity design is a popular styling.

CONTINUED

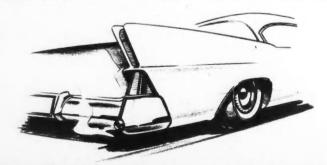




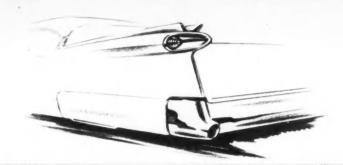
Fin designs know no boundary; here illustrator Cadaret has incorporated a flat most into the rear fender harmonizing very well with windsplit housing containing taillight.



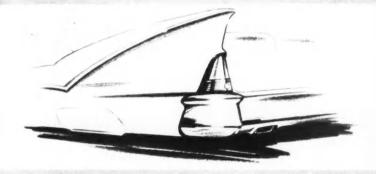
A very stylish treatment is this sweeping fin design that ellows the taillight lens to be tunneled in lower extremity. This fin would be a natural for late Chevrolets.



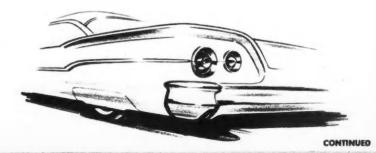
A unique presentation of taillight lenses is found in this dual bladed fin design. Combination taillights prove very functional. Note shade built over the lower lens.



With small bubble type lens recessed along outer edge of fender, fin carries a small V'd design that diminishes into huife-edge extension which borders the fender line.



Quite an elaborate fin kickup is found in this novel arrangement. Notice that the side trim plays a major role with fin's design. Taillight lens again is tunneled slightly.



Conceved peneling carries this rear fender fin theme. With dual lenses deeply tunneled into body panel, fin circles area returning to lower gravel shield just behind humper.

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BE YOUR OWN STYLIST

FINS

continued



1. Late Ford ('55-56) backup light attached determining amount of kicku



2. Once backup light is taped to the lens, make a cardboard template of fin's shape.



3. Template is used to make up duplical metal fin shown here. Note rear bulkhead



4. Spot bruze fin into fender position, then hruze the fin solidly to the feuler.



Grinder is used to smooth the surface Thoroughly clean all the heazed areas



6. Tin surface, then apply lead, spreading it evenly on surface with lead paddle.



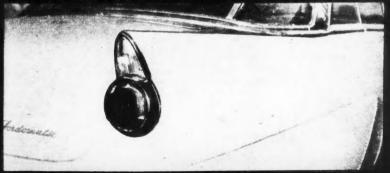
7. Surface is now brought to perfection by filing working area with a vixen file.



8. Blocksand surface thoroughly, featheredging painted areas. Apply metal prep.



9. Wipe metal prep from surface, then prime. Blocksand again, then apply paint.



Finished job lends a neat fin treatment. Car used for the story is '52-'54 Ford, but this type of fin arrangement is universal and would fit many makes and model cars.



Ford '48 brakes and 15" wheels team with Pirestone 6.40:15 tires. Bell Auto steering arm used on '46 Ford spindles, brakes.



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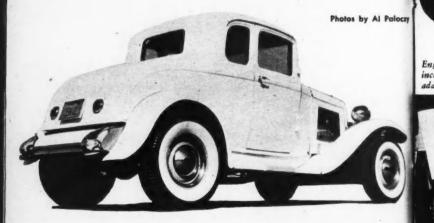
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Ivory naugabyde with blue diamond inserts beautifies trunk. Taillights are Pontias, Deck lid was filled-in for a custom look

for two young brothers,

what could be better than a -

DANDY DEUCE



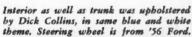
Purchased a year ago, the Collins brothers' '32 Ford five-window coupe has undergone extensive alterations since they took ownership. The entire underside of the car is black lacquer with a hand-rubbed finish. Chromed radius rods, backing plates, brake lines, steering linkage, oil pan, starter, all contribute to the car's strong eye appeal.

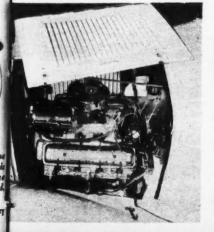
Dick and George Collins hail from Whittier, California, where George attends college, Dick upholsters cars. Their Deuce is one of the area's best.

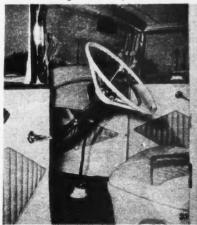
India Ivory enamel job is set-off by blue grille, rear-fender flames, and wheels. Plain small-diameter chrome bub caps are popular accessory item. Note lack of drastic "rake" attitude.



Engine compartment gleams with chrome, including home-made headers. Hildebrandt adaptor eased installation of the '56 Olds.







STRANGE THINGS BEGIN to happen when you start blending '56 and '57 components to the popularly styled '49-'51 Ford club coupe. For the first time in recent years the small club coupe takes on an updated appearance, achieved only in the past by major metal surgery. Carroll Gentry, owner and operator of Stylers Custom Shop of National City, California, is this month's torch man and creator of the coupe's innovations.

BODY MODIFICATIONS

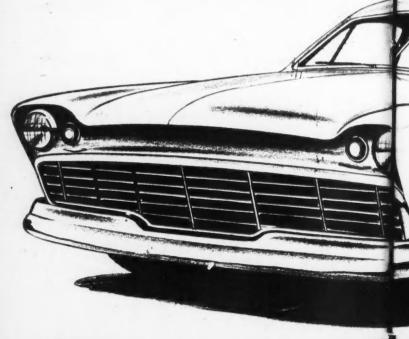
· Holding true to semi customizing, the body



Carroll Gentre

RESTYLES

THE '49-'51 FORD



was left completely intact except for the modification of side trim and removal of door handles. Lower trim spear emanates from a '55 DeSoto while the top piece bordering the two-toned paint job originates from a '56 Forder wheel openings also take on a new look with semi-elliptical contours similar to styling originated by Oldsmobile in '55.

HOOD, GRILLE AND HEADLIGHT MODIFICATIONS

Carroll came up with the current "forward sweep" for frontal styling by combining a '57 Ford grille assembly and bumper with concaved paneling that contains stock headlights and '55 Buick parking lights. Concaved paneling necessitated shortening hood some six inches and reworking the forward area of the hood flat to strike off with the panel's contours. Fenders were also reshaped considerably and now offer a shaded effect to headlights. Late Ford front bumper was shortened to fit Ford's narrow width minus bumper guards.

REAR FENDER AND TAILLIGHT MODIFICATIONS

The taillight and rear fender treatment is



'49-'51 FORD RESTYLE continued

one of the coupe's more interesting features. Employing the novelly designed taillight lens from the '57 Mercury, Gentry transposes dream car appeal to the stock fenders. Concaved top sections are now blended to the frenched Merc lenses with fenders lengthened some ten inches. Note that the sculptured rear fender line is unaltered at the lower gravel pan

level. Kaiser bumper guard augments rear bumper appearance and serves as a functional exhaust tip housing. Deck lid trim has been removed to customizing standards and body of car lowered a conservative amount.

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Carroll's new concept for restyling the '49'51 Ford serves as handwriting on the wall for other models that are sure to follow. With



a brand new set of tools '56 and '57 components) to work with, custom shops will be giving many of the recent customizing classics such as '49-'52 Chevrolets, '52-'54 Forda and Mercs, new faces and appearance — the new look in customizing about to take place.

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Shorten and reshape hood, front fenders and install grafts and front bumper (57 Ford) 75.00 57 (155 Ford) 75.00 57 (155 Ford) 50.00 46 (155 Ford) 50.00 57 (155 Ford)				
lights 155 Buck) \$250.00 \$ 30 Install grails and front bumper 1.57 Ford) 57 Install side trim (1.55 DeSete-156 Ford) \$50.00 \$6 Install side trim (1.55 DeSete-156 Ford) \$50.00 \$6 Install side trim (1.55 DeSete-156 Ford) \$50.00 \$7 Install side trim (1.55 DeSete-156 Ford) \$50.00 \$7 Install side trim (1.55 Desete-156 Ford) \$10 Install sid		Part		Shorten and reshape hood, front
1.57 Ford) 75.00 57. Install is de trim (155 DeSote-156 Ford) 50.00 46. Reships front and rear wheel opminas 50.00 7. Remove door handles and install electric push button system 40.00 20.18. Reships for fenders and french taillights 1.57 Merch 150.00 10.18. Indicated bumper without tips (Residue) 15.00 10.18. Indicated bumper guard) 15.00 10.18. Rewave both front and tear moderately 25.00 Remove trim from deck lid and install electrical push button.				lights ('55 Buick)
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opinings. 50 00 7. Remove door handles and install electric push button system. 40 00 20 it Reshape rear fenders and french taillights. (157 March 5 percial bumper exhaust tips. it Raiser bumper guard). 15 00 10 it lower both front and tear moderately. 25 00 Remove trim from deck lid and install electrical push button.		46.6		('55 DeSoto-'56 Ford)
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IMO ser bumper guardi 15.00 10 l Lower both front and rear moderately 25.00 Remave trim from deck lid and install electrical push button				taillights ('57 Merc)
moderately 25.00 Remove trim from deck lid and install electrical push button				(Kaiser bumper guard)
install electrical push button			25.00	
				install electrical push button
Two-tone paint (Enamel) 85.00				
\$750 00 \$179.9 179.90	0	\$179.9		
TOTAL \$929.90			\$929.90	TOTAL





Photos by D'Olivo, Rickman

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AS PROMISED in the first article of this two-part series (March '56 CAR CRAFT) we'll attempt to show in this concluding in stallment how an auto show should actually take place. Let's suppose your organization of the various committees necessary to proper show organization proceeded according to plan, and that they've managed to fulfill their respective tasks sufficiently to bring you right up to within a few days of show time.

PUBLICITY

By now, your promotion Committee will have gotten out posters announcing the show to speed shops, muffler shops, custom body shops, drive-ins frequented by the rod and custom crowd, etc. These announcements

should include the name, date, time and place of your show, as well as more detailed information on the number of trophies to be awarded, laying particular emphasis on the Club Participation Trophy, as this one award will be responsible for bringing in a large share of your entries. Posters may be obtained in quantity at wholesale prices from printing firms specializing in this type of work. Most of them have stock designs already made up, with just the name, time and place to be added. These firms are to be found in any of the larger cities, and a club can usually saw quite a bit of money on their advertising budget by working with them.

Posters are not the only avenue to be explored by your Promotion Committee, how-

ever, as newspaper and radio publicity is the prime method of attracting spectators to any event. Posters are tremendously effective in getting entrants, if properly placed, but newspaper space is a must. Your Promotion Committee can hire a professional photographer for a nominal fee - have him take pictures of some of the more "jewelly" cars in your club posed in a show-like setting, perhaps with a few trophies for props. A shot of your club officers mapping out the floor plan of your show using the hood of a rod or custom for a desk is surefire material for your local paper. Remember, a good write-up in even a weekly publication devoted to happenings in your particular area is far better than no publicity at all in a big metropolitan daily. Contact the City Editor of your local paper, in person, and explain what your club is trying to do in your community. Tell him about your forthcoming show, and go prepared - take the photos you've had taken, along with a Fact Sheet giving full information about the show and your club. Be brief, because Editors are always busy, but make sure everything he'll need to know is down in writing, included in the material you give him. Go see him well in advance of the show, so that the situation doesn't become one of him having to cram something in the paper at the last minute. Follow these simple recommendations and you'll get the write-up you need.

The same basic format can be followed in regard to radio publicity — especially if there's a disc jockey broadcasting to your area who specializes in so called "young people's music". If your Special Events Committee has been on the ball, you should have some type of supplementary entertainment for the show lined up that will be good for some additional publicity just before the event.

QUEEN CONTEST

Queen Contests are hard to beat for this sort of thing—if you've got a service club for a co-sponsor on the show, they'll be able to tell you all about how to run a competition of this nature.

In case you don't here's a brief capsule run-down on how it's done; you announce in the local papers (through the personal efforts of your Promotion Committee going down there and talking to the City Editor), that you're having a contest to select "Miss Autorama" (or whatever you decide to call your "queen"). Then as entries in your contest are received, the names of the new entrants can be released periodically, thus giving your show several consecutive "breaks" in the papers. During the show, the final judging will be completed, giving you one final item of news to work with - the name of the ultimate winner. You can include the information on class winners, number of cars entered, estimated spectator attendance, etc., in this final release, insuring that full results on your show will not go unpublished.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The queen contest shoud not be considered the only type of Special Event that CONTINUED

Late Buick being judged here is good example of "Mild Custom" class entrants—no special bodywork or upbolstery to speak of, but with a different appearance achieved through special paint and wheel discs.



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AUTO SHOW continued

would be suitable for your show. One Southern California club arranged for a National Guard detachment to set up a helicopter on display, while another group had several Quarter Midget race cars on a baseball diamond adjacent to their show grounds. A drum and bugle corps, weight lifting exhibition, judo school display, all have been used successfully. The Church Bazzar is always good. The opportunities are limited only by the

- it's up to them to come up with something Other committees should be in full swing

imagination of the Special Events Committee

at this stage of the game. Your Finance Committee is doling out the necessary funds to the other groups; the Facilities Committee may be making a last-minute double check on the availability of the public addres system you'll use; the Competition Committee is making up a floor plan of where the cars will be parked on the basis of entries so far, and your Awards Committee is sweating out the arrival of the trophies they've ordered.

that will be an asset to your show.

AWARDS

A word on Awards would not be amiss here; too many groups miss the boat by ordering trophies and/or trophy engraving at the last minute and then end up

giving their class winners a handshake and a sick smile when the trophies don't arrive in time for the show! To avoid this type of devastation you must begin soliciting award donations at least two months in advance of show day. Many pitfalls can be encountered when purchasing trophies for the first time. Price, quality and service should be your sole aim. There are many companies that specialize in car club activity and offer legitimate club discounts. These we highly recommend. If you live in a remote area where the local sporting goods or jewelry store is the only outlet for trophies, then approach them with a club discount proposition; they too recognize the club discount business pattern, and will generally make price allowances. Car Clubs affiliated with National Hot Rod Asso-

ciation already enjoy these discount benefin inasmuch as the Association has its own. trophy supply service which provides bonus savings for the members. This is the job of your Awards Committee, and they should jump right on it the minute your Competition Committee lines up the classes you'll be using at this particular event. In addition to first, second, and third place trophies for each of the classes you elect to use, two ultra-special trophies should be set aside for the Sweepstakes Award and Club Particips tion Trophy, and about a half-dozen "Special Awards" should be on hand. The Sweepstakes Award goes to the car judged "Best in Show" regardless of class, while the Clab Participation Trophy goes to the car dub



Immaculately restored early Plymouth roadster typifies Street Hot Rod Class en tries which may or may not have hot mills.

having the largest number of cars entered The Special Awards are just in case; it seems that never a show ends that the sponson don't wish they had a little extra something they could present some deserving contestants that almost, but not quite, made it into the winners' circle. They need not be expensive, as the circumstances under which they're given give them an intrinsic value, but they should be something that the recipient will be proud to display. Wall plaques or smaller cups are the most often used Special Awards; a walnut plaque with a gold plate engraved with the words "Special Award" followed by the name, date and place of the show is also

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very nice. Use your own judgment about the selection, but don't leave out the Special Awards — you'll need them.

SOLICITING TROPHIES

Getting together an impressive array of trophies for a full slate of classes is often enough to break the back of a club's treasury—good trophies will run from \$5 to \$15 apiece, and you should award three in each class scheduled. Simple arithmetic tells us that this can easily run into figures ordinarily used only by astronomers! But there's really no need for this to be a stumbling block; you've just got to get someone else to pay for your trophies.



Turnout to compete for Club Participation Trophy always results in colorful display of club uniforms, trophies won previously.

Although that may seem easier said than done, it's being accomplished many times weekly, as car clubs throughout the nation conduct their shows using donated awards. Just stop and think of the business firms in your community that derive part or all of their income from the automotive-conscious public – every one of them is a prospect for your Awards Committee's campaign.

The way you go about soliciting trophy donations has a lot to do with your success—or lack of it. Just popping into a new car dealer's show-room and asking one of the salesmen if he'd like to give you ten dollars for a trophy is not the way you get the job

done. You must talk to the head man, to start with; and present the idea to him on the basis of his firm making an award at your show in the firm's name as an advertising investment - which incidentally is tax deductible, another nice point for you to bring up. Make it clear to your prospective donor that none of the hassle of actually selecting and purchasing of the trophies will be left up to him; the club will do all of that and also pay for the engraving on the awards themselves. All the donor is required to do is simply pay for the trophy bearing his firm's name. This means that each of the trophies awarded at your show will have a name, such as the "Joe Smith Tire Service Award", and should be announced this way

> at the time of presentation. But more about that later - right now let's get your Competition Committee squared away.

CLASSIFICATION

Getting the entrants in your show segregated into the proper classes simply can't be done properly unless the class structure you're using is suitable for the types of cars you're most likely to attract. You know the kind of cars you have in your area, and in the surrounding vicinities from which you're liable to receive entrants. If you expect very few all-out custom cars, but a great preponderance of street hot rods, then it wouldn't be at all smart to have six full custom

classes and only one street hot rod category. The reverse of this may just as easily be true, so start looking at the modified cars in your community in a different light — consider them from the standpoint of potential entries that will properly expect to be classified.

First of all you should consider whether or not you'll need a Competition Class. Unless there's a drag strip within easy driving distance of your town, you can let this one go by, although some cities lacking a drag strip do have a professional oval track nearby which could result in your picking up a few all-out race car entries. In any case, cars in the Competition Class should live up to their name — only machines that are never driven except in competition should be included.

CONTINUED

AUTO SH

continued

Queen Contest winners at recent show display distinctive togs and badges needed to separate entrants from spectators thus encouraging widespread voting.

FAR RIGHT . Competition Class entry displays tropbies won at drags, other shows; is good example of type car usually attracted to this show class.



The Roadster Class is always a good bet hot rodding's spread in recent years has been such that hardly any area is devoid of its roadster quota. In direct contrast to the Competition Class, cars admitted to the Roadster Class must be street-driven vehicles primarily. although many of them may be regularly used for competition.

Probably one of the largest classes at any auto show is the Street Hot Rod Class, composed of coupes and sedans. Entrants in this division are usually pre-war machines that have been restored to a glory they didn't originally possess in the paint, chrome and upholstery departments, and may or may not

have modified engines.

Telling the difference between a Street Hot Rod Class competitor and one that would fall into one of the Custom divisions can sometimes be difficult, but since the entrant's main toncern is making a good showing, you can't miss if you put him where he'll do best, or let him choose between them himself. If the car in question has greater emphasis placed on engine modification than custom bodywork, then the Street Hot Rod Class is for him. But if there's more lead than load involved, he'd be better off in the Semi-Custom Class without a doubt.

Mild Custom is the name of a class currently enjoying great popularity on the West Coast. It seems to be filling a long-neglected need for a "low-budget" customizers' class. Usually limited to cars having no custom bodywork or special upholstery at all, cars in this class compete on the basis of over-all appearance and condition, similar to the "concours" events held by sports car and classic car groups. Surprisingly, this class is sometimes the spectators' favorite, for wild

flame paint jobs, striping, external exhaus systems, and special fender skirt and wheel disc treatments typify the modifications found in this group.

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Semi Custom class competitors are allowed more freedom of design expression than the Mild Custom entrants - cars in this division are allowed any and all custom modifications both external and internal, except major alterations consisting of chopped tops, see tioned bodies, and bodies channeled down over the frame. Since the three modification excluded are generally accepted as being the most expensive to perform, this class hits the question of amount invested in the middle.

Full-Custom is the prima donna class a any auto show. This is where the all-out, really radical custom cars compete for the judges' favor. With no holds barred on the amount or nature of the modifications incorporated, these are usually the most expensive cars in the show from the standpoint of money invested. From the viewpoint of the club sponsors, this class is similar to the one for Competition Cars, in that it may be left out if it is believed that insufficient numbers of cars in this category will be attracted to the event. On the other hand, when an impressive turnout of Full Customs is expected, the class is usually divided into Full Custom and Full Custom Convertible, so as to separate the open and closed body cars. This same division according to hard or soft top is sometimes extended even to the Semi-Custom Class, if the entry list warrants.

Actually, since you've got to draw the line lopula somewhere, you might as well follow the var (example of the many clubs standing firm on 48 and the "five cars to a class minimum" rule hange Giving out first, second, and third place ars de mophies in a class having less entries than that is foolish anyway – the fellows who get the hardware under these circumstances don't really feel that they've won anything anyway!

Our recommendation to a club holding its first show would be to offer first, second and third place trophies in the following classes: Roadster, Street Hot Rod, Mild Custom, Semi Custom, and the Special Class. Cars act eligible for entry in any of the first four classes listed above would go into the Special Class, unless five of the same type showed up. Antiques, Classics, Sports Cars, and Motor-opcies are also bait for the Special Class. A spical Special Class might consist of these



ne-of-a-kind entries: a track roadster, an ntique, or classic, a motorcycle, some kind f a sports car, and perhaps a Full Custom. although this sounds like an unreasonable odge-podge, you're actually giving the cars' wners concerned a break - they're each just ne of a kind at your show, and under the iniversally recognized five cars to a class uling, they wouldn't have any chance at the ardware at all were it not for the Special Class you've set up. This class, strangely d mough, is another crown-picase, hows the variety of shapes and sizes the sults of an automotive enthusiast's hobby he expected entry list warrant them, may aclude the Convertible division for the Semi lustom and Full Custom Classes, and the bopular Pre-War Custom division. The "Pre-war Custom" class is open to cars made in 48 and earlier, due to the fact the styling hanged little or not at all on most pre-war te ars during the early post-war model years.

It's generally agreed that whether or not a Pre-War Custom Class is provided at a show or not, if a car has been chopped, channeled, or sectioned, it is a Full Custom and competes in the class of the same name. Thus Pre-War Custom divisions become additional Semi Custom classes in effect. This is why you won't need one at all unless you anticipate a sufficient number of early model customs to make up the additional class.

JUDGES

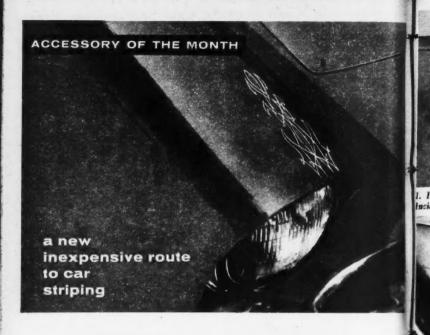
All too often a club thinks the battle is over when the show actually starts. After all the work and preparation that's gone before, it's a great tempetation to feel that it's all over but the shouting come show day, and you may be right — the shouting may be long, loud, and entirely justified if the cars are unfairly judged — and the judging is only as good as the judges doing it.

Three judges are usually adequate — one should be a policeman, preferably a traffic officer due to his special knowledge of the state vehicle code; while the others should be allied to the automotive field either through their hobby or vocation. But make sure they aren't so closely affiliated with rodding and customizing that prejudice may enter the picture. Having the proprietor of a body shop who knows custom work for a judge is a fine idea — unless some of his own work is represented among the entry list!

If selecting outside judges poses an apparently unsolvable problem, don't fight select the three men most competent for the task from your own Competition Committee and let them do the job - or better yet, take two of them and add a traffic officer to handle the safety check end of the judging task. Whatever you do, stick to an odd number with three judges a deadlock is impossible. During the show, your Facilities Committee should equip each judge with a clipboard containing blank judging sheets (furnished by the Competition Committee) and assign a clubmember to him as messenger. As each car is judged, the judging sheet carrying its score is given to the messenger who takes it to the Competition Committee's hideout where they are tabulating the cars' points.

POINTS

Many clubs have tried various different methods of points scoring for auto shows, CONTINUED ON PAGE 62



PIN STRIPES

Photos by Jim Potter

WE NEED NOT EXPOUND on the popularity of car striping for in less than two short years this decorative, abstract type automotive striping has become as standard as louvers and lowering blocks to hot rod and custom car enthusiasts everywhere. Recently though, we were introduced to a new and revolutionary item concerning this popular fad, one which we feel will reach wide acceptance among those enthusiasts who reside in remote areas where car stripers are a scarce breed. The product is called "Pin Stripes", a package of very durable

and genuine appearing decals of various sizes, designs and shapes, that can easily be permanently bonded to the fenders, hood doors and deck lid of your car in a matter of minutes. The made-ready stripes come is two colors, white and maroon, and the complete package costs as little as \$4.95. Many of the leading accessory stores already stod "Pin Stripes", but if you find that they are not yet available at your local automotive accessory store, write directly to the manufacturer, Fell Products Company, Box 2666, CC, Santa Monica, California.



1. Instructions accompany "Pin Stripes". Incidentals pictured are also needed.



2. Cut "Pin Stripes" apart and soak in water for approximately ten full seconds.



3. Clean surface thoroughly of wax and dirt, then slide stripes from backing.



4. Smooth stripes gently with edge of cardboard, working from center to edge.



S. Wipe "Pin Stripes" lightly with clean lamp cloth, then allow to dry overnight.



6. Waxing is last step. "Pin Stripes" lend legitimate appearance and are very durable.







RESTYLING THE

Photos by Fermoyle, Rickman, Barris

BIRD

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As ome and ots, e us erha



sil Sheeban, Oakland, Calif., owns this ld and beige 'Bird customized at ordon Vann's shop in Berkeley, Calif.

umper guards and taillight hoods we hand formed, use Buick's taillight, ck-up light, Austin-Healy stoplight.

eehan's mill is 1/8 x 1/6, has Winld cam, ported heads, Spalding ignion, plus McCulloch supercharger.

DVENT OF THE Ford Thunderbird upon the new-car scene for '55 relted in a great, collective sigh of relief om the street hot rod enthusiasts. After I, Model "T" bodies were practically tinct, and "A", '32, and '34 components ere becoming so scarce as to excite coment whenever any were uncovered.

But Ford Motor Company didn't let the dders down — they've got a tradition to the palive, too. The street roadster of the ture burst forth billed as "the personal tr" — but from the died-in-the-wool rod ad custom fans, the cry went out: "They hally built a car to replace the Deuce!"

As the availability of the T-Bird bemes more widespread through its secondand distribution on the nation's used car its, more and more amateur restylists will e using them as foils for their ingenuity. erhaps twenty years hence you'll hear meone say "I know where you can get a eal sanitary '55 T-Bird; no rust, no dents, nd the old duffer who owns it doesn't now what it's worth!" Sound familiar?

CONTINUED







work with metal shaping tech







Detroit's Bob Palmer had ClarKaiser estyle his 'Bird, then topped-off the job with Pearl-White paint, Gold trim.

Nique grille consists of two '53 Stude gravel pans sandwiching '53 Buick bumper carrying '53 Mercury guards, Hood scoop was extended, but beld discs are from Chrysler "300". Emblem on top works electric doors.



Tips from four '55 Ford bumpers were used for nerf bars, Back-up lights fill former exhaust outlets, Taillights shine out through fine-mesh gold-anodized expanded metal grillework in extended fins.

COLUMN SHIFT

FOR EARLY FORDS

how-to-do-it feature



FUNCTIONAL CUSTOMIZING has long been one of the keynotes of hot rodding. Installing a column shift transmission and its related parts in Fords built before this feature was available as original equipment has been a classic example of this since the feature's introduction in 1940. Through the cooperation of genial "Timmerman, the following three pages contain a pictorial description of the operations required to install a column shift in any Ford built from '34 through '39. Pre- '34 models modified to use a '34 X-member may be converted with the same techniques, while Deuces and A-V8's may be shifted in the modern manner through use of the hydraulic clutch conversion in connection with the column box. Installation of swing pedals and the hydraulic clutch "slave" cylinders (distributed by Tim's Precision Engines, 166 No. Kinneloa St., Pasadena, California) was covered in the June, 1955 issue of Car Craft.

Since the great majority of rod and custom fans owning pre-war Fords are already well aware of the operations necessary to remove and replace the rear end and transmission, we'll take it from there . . .

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Photos by Colin Cretiz

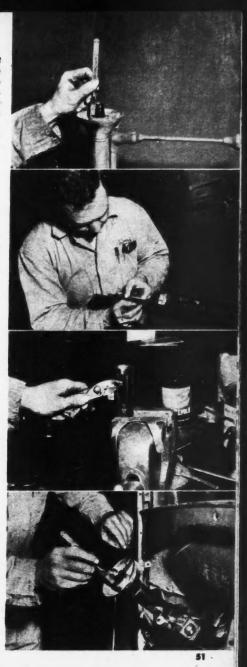
First step is obtaining a '40-'48 column — getting one from a wreck has the advantage of allowing you to measure the distance it should be below the steering wheel when properly installed. Remove your stock column and slip the new one on — it's probably too long to go on all the way, so measure the difference and cut it.

Although the amount to be removed varies according to what year car is being converted, it's nearly always emough to lose both the lower clamp-slot and the shift tube support bracket locating pin hole. Replacing these two necessary features higherup on the column is described in the photo sequence which follows.

After cutting the column to length make two parallel cuts, then bend out the remaining strip and snip off to form slot for lower column clamp. This need not be exactly like the original but should be a reasonable factimile so that the clamp will tighten up properly thus preventing annoying steering column rattles later.

With column slipped in place minus shift tube, measurement from steering shaft down to column should be the seme as that taken in first step. Now remove column, install shift tube and its support bracket, and try it again. In most cases you'll find it too is much longer than you need, so get ready for more cutting.

CONTINUED





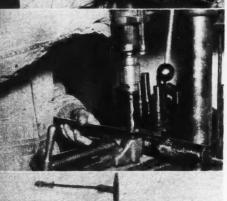
COLUMN SHIFT

continued

With shift tube on column, slide assembly up until clearance for shifting arms is obtained, then measure distance from where column should be to where it actually is. This is the amount you'll remove from the shift tube, and also the distance from the former locating pin hole to the new one you'll drill.



Rather than try to measure from the bole in the part you cut off to where the new hole should be, mark off the amount the shifting tube must be shortened on the column. Position the shift tube support bracket on the mark and make another mark where the bracket's locating pin rests and you'll be ready to drill.



Here's the first step of the conversion you may have to "job out". After the shift tube support bracket locating pin hole has been drilled in the column you can make two hacksaw cuts in the shift tube itself so as to remove a section of the proper length Anywhere on the tube will do so make it where you can get at it in the var.

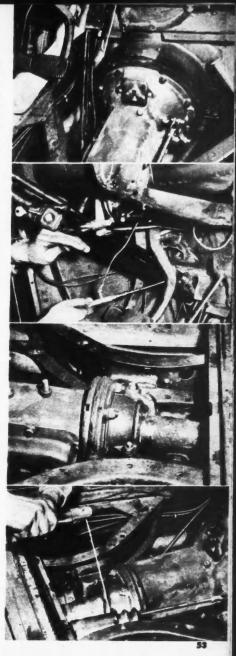
Sectioned shift tube assembly looks like this; reason for making cuts at points accessible when unit is installed in car is because tack welding will be necessary after positioning. Don't get ahead of yourself at this stage of the game by welding the tube without trying it in the car and tacking it first - you might be sorry.

With column and complete shifting tube assembly in place, book-up shifting rods and place transmission arms in neutral position. Move column shift lever to neutral position, then make mark across where two balves of shifting tube meet. Note that clutch throwout shaft has been reversed to facilitate hydraulic operation.

Your local welding shop enters the scene for the tacking and welding operation. After initial tacking, try "going through the gears" to insure against interference with dash in second, etc., then weld'er up. Relief in floorboard flange was another torch job needed on this car but many models will not need one.

After adjusting shifting rods for proper gear engagement, strap steel bracket was tacked to '34 cross-member in the "A" used as our example. Two holes in bracket are for slave cylinder needed for hydraulic clutch actuation already installed, '34-'39 Ford clutch pedals hook-up to column boxes without any alterations at all.

With slave cylinder temporarily mounted for alignment, bracket is arced permanently in place. After bydraulic line is routed up to clutch cylinder a linkage adjustment finishes the job. This car uses dual '52 Ford brake pedals and master cylinders for both clutch and brake, although many others are equally suitable.



GRAB BAG

"face lifting" the '53-'54 Studebaker



WHEN IT COMES to special grilles no one model lends itself to such versatility as that of the '53-'54 Studebaker. The contours of the front body and grille panels are such that just about any special grille creation will fit and add that custom touch. The main reason for this is that the two stock oblong grille openings need only to be reworked slightly to form a natural cavity for any type of multiple bar or mesh screen grille assembly. The seven illustrations found on these two pages will explain what we mean and should start many of you Stude enthusiasts thinking of a special grille piece for your custom-to-be.

Small diameter round rod makes up this special grille design. Note how grille ends turn up and blend into the headlights.

With upper grille section filled in solid, lower pan design supplies cooling to engine. Stock bumper carries chrome feature



'54 Pontiac grille bar nestles in this reworked cavity. Special extension pieces were made to extend the cavity's full width.





WHAT'S YOUR



SPORTS CAR QUERY

Dear Bob:

I have the bug to build a sports car. I would like to know what older car (Ford if possible) chassis and springs would be best to use and easy to work with.

Johnnie L. Carpenter,
 McCook, Nebraska

Suggest you consider using a '33 Plymouth frame, front suspension, steering gear; with Chevrolet rear axle, driveshaft, and transmission. Many V8 engines can be adapted to the Chevrelet transmission, the easiest being, of course, the Chevrolet V8, which is also the lightest.

BUGGED BY BABBITT

Dear Bob:

I have a '50 Chevrolet which I have driven 20,000 miles since purchased immediately after an overhaul. Due to its lack of performance I milled .060" off the head, installed a dual intake manifold and dual exhausts, and a set of hi-lift rocker arms. Since then, I have had to replace the rods twice. I've been told I should have a truck shop pour me some dieselabbit rods, while others say to install insert type rods. What's the way out on my problem?

- Fred Bower, Corvallis, Oregon

Babbitt rods are for the birds, no matter what kind of babbitt is used or how thick it is poured. Modern insert-type rods are the answer. Frank McGurk, 1326 Halldale Ave., Gardena, Calif., has an exchange arrangement whereby you can trade in your obsolete poured-bearing rods

on the modern insert type for a nominal cost much cheaper than putting in new rods at the rate you're going through them.

BRAKES AND GEARS

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Dear Bob:

I'm installing a '54 Olds V8 engine in my '51 Ford convertible. I want to use a heavy-duty transmission, and if it's considered advisable, larger brakes on the front, so as to beef-up the car in proportion to the increased power and weight. What do you suggest?

- Frank Braton Kansas City, Mo.

Suggest you use any year Cadillac V8 columnshift transmission if you wish to keep that type of shift; or, if floor shift is acceptable, any year V8 Cad or LaSalle box. Conversion kits are available to adapt these boxes to Ford U-joints and driveshafts from Transmission Specialists, 355 E. Manchester Blvd., Les Angeles, Calif.

Lincoln front brakes are very desirable when a heavier engine is installed in a Ford; changeover is relatively simple. '49 through '51 models are suitable for this swap.

TIMING TWIST

Dear Bob:

In the 1957 Hot Rod Annual there was as illustration that led me to believe that a stock cam could be altered to give more pep. Is this true, or did I misunderstand it?

I've also heard that if I plane the heads on my Ford, I'll get the same results as with regular high-compression heads. Is this also true, and would they crack from engine heat because of their thinness? If these two things can be done, what would they cost?

- Ronald Keiser, Omaha, Nebraska

Some stock cams can be retimed in relation to the crankshaft so as to give a later intoke valve closing point, thus detracting from low rpm performance but helping out the top-end, Juggling the timing a few degrees in this direction is only practical when the cam concerned has an intake opening point of more degrees before top dead center than the exhaust valve's closing point after top dead center. As a general rule, overall performance from most engines is best if the intake opening point and the exhaust valve closing point occur the same number of degrees before and after top dead center, respectively. This is referred to as "split overlap".

The performance gain thus obtained is

rop in the bucket compared to what a good cam can give you — and the same applies milled heads versus racing heads. Check with our advertisers regarding prices on these.

OLDS COMPONENT SELECTION

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I recently purchased a '49 Olds Super 88. nd would like to replace the present engine nd transmission with later components. What would you suggest, and what must be one about the electrical system?

- Joseph Jill, Richmond Hill, N.Y.

juggest you use '52 Olds engine which has hi-It rockers. 4-throat carburetor, etc., like the 53, and 6-V starter and generator, thus eliinating a costly, tedious, and time-consumg electrical system changeover. Use the '54 lydramatic for its added strength, more posive shifting, and dual-range feature. A '53 or iter steering column mast jacket with the roper selector lever guadrant must be installed long with dual-range hydramatic.

BEEFY CLUTCH

Dear Bob:

I have a '46 Mercury with speed equipent. Will my '46 flywheel take a '46 Linoln clutch, or what changes would I have p make to use this beefier unit?

- Salvatore Schettina. Brooklyn, N.Y.

he Lincoln Clutch may be adapted to the Merc ngine by use of the '46-'48 Ford "6" flywheel nd 11" clutch disc.



CHROME-PLATED RRASS SWITCH PLATES

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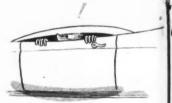
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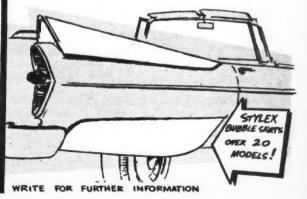
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23919 BLACKSTONE VAN DYKE, MICHIGAN ADD 1960 STYLING AND INCREASE ROAD STABILITY ...





MODIFYING THE McCULLOCH

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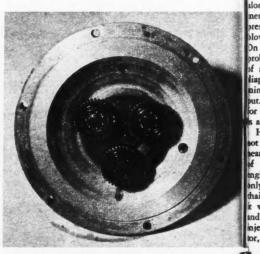
Standard McCulloch impeller a bousing are used in Howard-converted units. Impeller RPM varies with gom ing but is usually kept under 40,000 to avoid excessive shock loads on drive gears when sudden speed changes and imposed, such as drag race gear-shifts,

box that is connected to the outlet side of the blower with a rubber hose. By enclosing the carburetors in this manner they are completely surrounded by the air delivered by the blower and as a result the air above the fuel in their float bowls is automatically maintained at the same pressure as the air that enters their air horns and there is no change in their normal fuel metering characteristics.

The carburetor box, or enclosure, on Rudy's engine was made by Morco Engineering, Gardena, Calif. Morco Engineering is owned and operated by Howard Moore. The specialty at Morco is McCulloch installations and Howard designed the carburetor enclosures, which are available with complete installation kits, to eliminate the problem of having to convert carburetors to run under conditions they weren't designed for.

The enclosure is of cast aluminum and it has an aluminum base plate that slips over the studs of the carburetor flanges on the intake manifold where it is held in place by the carburetors. The enclosure is clamped to the base plate by four long studs that pass through its top surface. Attached to the bottom of the base plate is a fuel block that receives fuel from the pump; the fuel lines to the individual carburetors are inside the box. blo Another block attached to the bottom of the plate serves as a mount for a throttle lever that extends up into the enclosure and con-

Three pinion gears shown here drive sun gear with power transmitted from ring gear in blowers converted by Howard Johansen. Close examination of this photo will reveal the ball bearings these gears require due to their high operating speed.





Complete Morco Engineering carburetor mclosure kit for triple manifold. Required inside fuel lines, linkage are included.

nects to the linkage for the carburetor throttle valves. The lower end of the lever is connectnder ed to the car's original throttle mechanism.

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An enclosure of this type provides the only logical means of obtaining maximum performance from a McCulloch, and at the present time Morco is making them for Ford, T-Bird, Chevrolet, Corvette, and Cadillac.

The only problem of a stock McCulloch pass installation that isn't cured by a Morco enbotclosure is the one of boosting the fuel presthat sure to the carburetors. The pressure must be es to raised to a value equal to that put out by the box blower, plus the normal pressure required by the the carburetor. In normal installations an ever attempt is made to maintain the correct pressure by using one or two electric fuel pumps along with the stock pump but this arrangement is seldom adequate and for high blower pressures (when someone tampers with the blower control) it rarely does the job at all. On Howard's Chevy and Rudy's Caddy the problem was solved nicely by the installation of an aircraft-type centrifugal pump that is liaphram controlled to pump a predeternined pressure above that of the blower outout. The pump is belt driven and other than or the fuel lines connected to it all it needs a pressure line from the blower's outlet.

Howard Johansen's blower conversions are ot available to purchasers yet but in the ear future he hopes to have kits for many f the more popular overhead valve V8 ingines. These will be for competition use only and will include, in addition to the thain-driven blower, a fuel injector, so that will not be necessary to use carburetors, and one of the aircraft fuel pumps. However, injectors in the kits will not have a carbureor, such as the one on Howard's Chevy.



Constant research and development of can grinds required for use in a Super charged engine has enabled Howard's Cams to now offer a cam for the "Blown" O.H.V. engine that will give sensational performance for both street and competition use.

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AUTO SHOW

continued

Borrowed bouse trailer makes best-yet "bideout" for judges during bectic points computation period of show. Enterprising Renegades club used adding machine; gave tapes to contestants after show was completed,



system to your judges - you'll avoid them unwittingly committing some glaring injustics.

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some good, some not so good. For the first time out, it would be a good plan to avoid experimenting. Fortunately, one point system has survived the test of time and is widely used—not because it's necessarily the best possible, but because it's simple and readily understood by everyone at the show—competitors, judges, and spectators alike.

This system is based on five categories: Safety (according to your state vehicle code), Appearance, Workmanship, Interior, Originality in Design. Each category is worth a maximum of 10 points, thus allowing a total of 50 points for a perfect car of outstanding originality. In this writer's opinion that car is yet to be built; the average car should be worth a total of 20 points - see that the judges realize this and don't start out being too liberal with points as they go down the line or catastrophe will strike your show. Why? Because sure as you're living they'll find a better car further down the line, but won't be able to grant it the extra points it deserves because they've already given the maximum to a not-quite-as-nice machine early in the judging. The average car would rate a score of 4 in any given category - it's got to be really outstanding to get those extra points.

Let's take an example — suppose the judges don't know this, and give one of the first cars judged a score of 10 on Safety, because it is in perfect mechanical condition. Then further along they discover a car that is its equal in every way, but in addition the owner has installed safety belts both front and rear. Obviously this should be good for an extra point or two, but because of the overly high score on the previous car, the judges find themselves "out of points". An unfair scoring results, and you can be sure that your show and the judges will not win a popularity award because of it. So be sure to thoroughly explain the points

SWEEPSTAKES

Selecting the "best car in show" for the etcovered Sweepstakes Award must be done by about the judges as soon as they have looked at the vilast car in line. Since this Award is the most the prized of all, it is customary not to give a car both the Sweepstakes Award and a first place trophy in class. Should the judges discover, as they probably will, that the car selected as best clain show has also accumulated enough points to win its class, the Competition Committee has must be instructed by them to move up each it car in that class one place and award the whole the strophies for first, second, and third accordingly. but

PROGRAMMING

Which brings us right up to the wire — it's ou bright and early the day of the show and your hit club is down at the show grounds getting set to up for the forthcoming crowd of spectators A and entrants. Your Finance Committee is all an primed to sell tickets at the gate, equipped to with the tools of their trade — a card table, por a roll of tickets, a cash box, and couple of club primembers adept at making correct change.

The Promotion Committee, operating from the

The Promotion Committee, operating from the a picnic table or something similar, is pro. An cessing the entry blanks of post-entries, and like returning blanks to entrants who mailed their in previously in response to your posters, and eng who are now showing up to compete.

Entrants go from the Promotion Committee ent to the stamping grounds of the Competition away. Committee, where the classes of competition away. are thoroughly explained to each of them and committee their car is classified. The Facilities Committee ly is working right with the Competition Committee with mittee here, making up descriptive signs for

each of the cars, giving such information as make, year, model, engine, owner's name, etc., in addition to the car's class designating letter and competition number. All this sign making is best done inside whatever enclosure was provided for the competition committee - a recreation clubhouse, if your show is in a park, or perhaps even a borrowed house-trailer if the wide open spaces are your dish. This "office" is necessary, not just for sign making now, but for the Competition Committee to use as sanctuary during the points computation session that will follow the judging. During this particular interval they will naturally astices, want to be free of well-meaning spectators' distracting questions, etc. While all this is going on your Special Events Committee is supplying background music (records, tapes, or the etc.) over the PA and making announcements one by about the spectators' participation in the show at the via the Queen Contest. It doesn't matter if most there are any spectators actually there yet or a crinot; practice makes perfect!

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place In the same vein, your club members millver, so ing around the field, the cars lined-up being is best classified, and the PA booming out, all compoints bine to make it look as if something big is mittee happening out there. This is good, because each it will pull in many spectators off the street d the who never heard of your club or your show, ingly but just happened to be passing by. To help this along, all your club members should have their cars clean and polished to their sharpest appearance - then instead of parking them - it's outside, they should be brought in as an exyour hibit of your own rolling stock. A good place ng set to put them is right with the trophy display. tators A sign proclaiming the ownership of the cars is all and explaining that they are only on exhibiipped tion and not competing for awards should be table posted along with them. All this hoopla helps f club prime the pump to get the show underway and gloss over that awkward period early in from the day when nobody's out there but the club. pro Anything along the same lines to make it look and like something interesting is fine.

Your Awards Committee should now be hein , and engaged in putting up the display of trophies to be awarded. Having your Queen Contest nittee entrants assist in this operation is sure to attract ition the spectators' attention to the display right ition away. The girls concerned should be dressed and conspicuously, in shorts and sweater or possib-litted by semi-formal attire, so as to not blend in com with the spectators. They should wear some

CONTINUED ON PAGE 66



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'56 DESOTO TAILLIGHTS FOR CHRYSLER

Dear Neil:

I own a '55 Chrysler Windsor hardtop and wish to install '56 DeSoto station taillights in place of the stock components. I personally feel that they are inner-changeable however, would appreciate you further explaining before I go ahead with the transposition.

- Eddie Colon Belleville, New Jersey

Your question Eddy, represents many that cross CAR CRAFT'S editorial desk monthly. The questions you mention are valid in every respect, but generally ones that need no explanation from us. I say that because of one simple fact, When a person is contemplating making a styling switch to a stock component on his car there is only one method that he, or even ourselves, can employ to determine just what work will be involved in the transposition. In short, we all are compelled to go directly to the source where the component originates and try it on for size. Most automotive agency's parts departments will extend you the privilege of fitting up a certain part for comparison on your car any time providing it's parked nearby. This is the only way that I know of that a comparison can be made to determine how much work is involved for any type of modification. I bring this point up only because so many readers write in querying us on "will this component At this, or, will that taillight fit that?" when actually the person questioning the fact could have stopped by his local automotive agency stocking that certain component and tried it on for size, ascertaining the results probably in less time than it took him to drop us a letter and for us to return an answer. Now, getting back to your question, Eddy, the two taillight assemblies appear to be

very close in relation to size. To really determine the switch, I suggest that you call on your local DeSoto dealer and try one on for size?

BUICK TAILLIGHTS FOR NEW CHEV

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Dear Neil:

I am customizing my new '55 Chevy and am about to start on the taillights. I have chosen the '56 Buick taillight components and was wondering what will be the best process to employ. First, would it be easier to splice the rear section of the Buick fenders onto my Chev's fenders or would it be better to construct the housings and extension from strictly sheet metal? Also while I am at it I was contemplating installing a continental kit. Would it be much more trouble to match off the fenders with the continental kit?

- Ben Cheshelski Linden, New York

First, if you have decided on the continental kit, install it. Since most continental kits require the bumper to be moved back various distances you will have to have the kit securely installed in its position. Next, procure your Buick taillight components. Place them up to the bumper in the desired position tack bracing them to your Chev's fenders. The open area between the taillights and the fenders should be filled in with sheet metal, welded soild, then finished off. The job will be one of a major alteration, but should offer a very unique one-of-a-kind appearance. I also suggest that you remove the Chev's original taillight openings completely for best results.

CORVETTE GRILLE FOR MERC

Dear Neil:

I am customizing my '50 Mercury 4-door and am now ready to give the grille the restyling action. I am planning on using the Corvette grille assembly, but can't seem to find a suitable parking light unit to match up with the grille piece. I want to adapt the parking lights in, or next to the grille, keeping the complete assembly inside the Merc's grille shell. Have you any suggestions for my problem? I also would like to ask you if you could pinpoint any red hot side trim treatments for this particular model?

- Bob Constantine
St. Louis, Missouri

Possible parking lights that you could employ for your particular Corvette grille combo, Bob, would be Henry J or '53 Studebaker components. If you wish a slightly larger unit try '53 Chev-

rolet or '51 Cadillac units. For side trim molding, r local | suggest '51 Lincoln, '56 Ford Custom Line, or 56 Buick Roadmaster.

'56 BUICK BLINKERS FOR CHEVS

Dear Neil:

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I'm the proud owner of a '51 Chevrolet and am contemplating a different (I think) approach to restyling the taillights. I want to use '56 Buick taillights. I've tried the "sizeper-fender" and it's quite apparent that the ob will require extensive body work. What I'm really concerned about though, is do you think that this particular installation will lend itself to the Chev's body style? Could you fill me in on what would be the best practical method of accomplishing this installation?

> - Bill Button East Tawas, Michigan

'm afraid, Bill, that you're in for quite a torch session with the installation of the Buick blinkers in your Chev's rear fenders. The Buick lenses would have to be modified considerably because of their size in relationship to the Chev's fenders. The job could be accomplished but much work would be involved. I would think that the '56 Chrysler taillight lens would be a much better component to work with under the circumstances. They are narrower and shorter in size as compared to the Buick lens, which would make the installation chore a much easier operation. Also the Chrysler bumper could be modified to fit your particular body style with very little work. In my opinion this would make a very nice combination. Give it some thought?





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AUTO SHOW continued

sort of identifying badge bearing their name so that the spectators may know who they's voting for when the time comes.

The PA announcements regarding t Queen Contest should be to the effect the the spectators may obtain voting slips at the Trophy Display. This can be handled ver simply with a card table, slips of paper, plea of pencils, and a container labelled "Cast You Vote Here". Judging of the Queen Contra should be postponed until the last part of th show, to act as a fill-in event while the car's points scores are being tabulated by the Competition Committee. In contrast, judging of the cars should begin no later than noon fifty cars will take three judges three hour to do, and if you postpone the announcement of the results too long the spectators will los interest and leave early.

PRESENTATIONS

First off should be the announcement of the Oueen Contest winner. As is standard procedure for beauty contests, everybody winsalmost. Each of the runners-up should be crowned as a princess, with all the girls getting some kind of a nice little award. After all they've contributed a lot to your show.

After the Oueen has been selected, the presentation of class trophies can commence, third place trophies first, followed by second, thes first, to build interest, If your timing's right the Competition Committee will have just completed the points score tabulations as the Special Events Committee is presenting the Queen's last Princess her award - but don't cut it too fine - allow time for everything and make sure the man on the mike is kept posted as to the Competition Committee's progress, so he can stall a little if necessary. The Sweepstakes Award is, of course, the very last to be announced.

One of the nicest presentations we've everseen called for each class winner, as soon as his name was anounced, to get into his car and slowly drive it up to the announcer's position. There, an area had been roped off and designated as the "Winner's Circle". After being presented his trophy with suitable ceremony by the Queen (or one of her Princesses; they take turns) he moves his car into the "Circle". Believe it or not, this really goes over big with everyone concerned - and you, well, will feel your show was a big success.

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